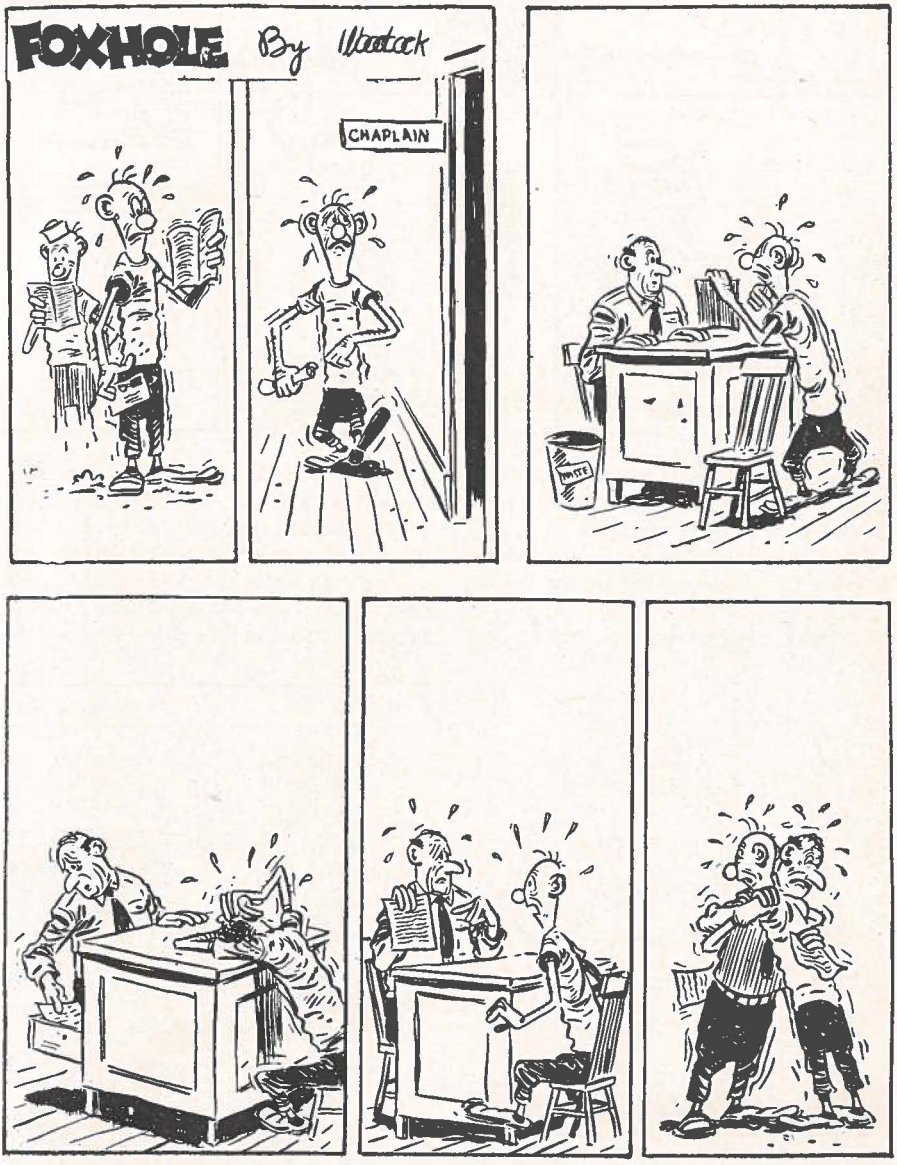
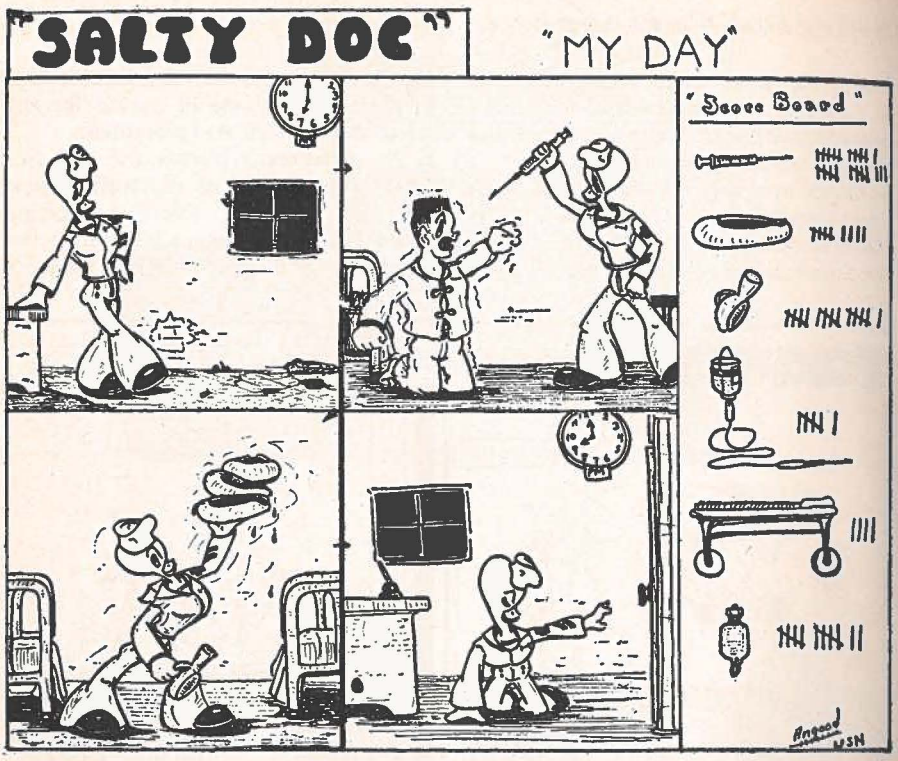
Selected Cartoons

Humor, in the medical profession, is at its height. It may be that the everyday association with the sick developes an instinct for "escapism."

Every profession more or less lampoons itself by word and picture. The Hospital Corps during World War II produced many men, who, for hospital newspapers, reflected the lighter side of a sordid business of caring for the thousands of sick and wounded.

The QUARTERLY during the war followed the custom of reprinting some of these cartoons. Now it reprints again a few of those which illustrate conditions and temperament. Some of

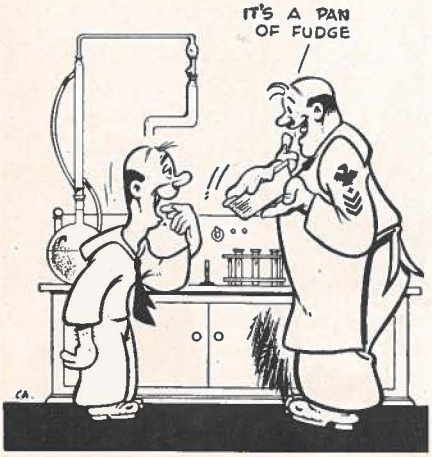


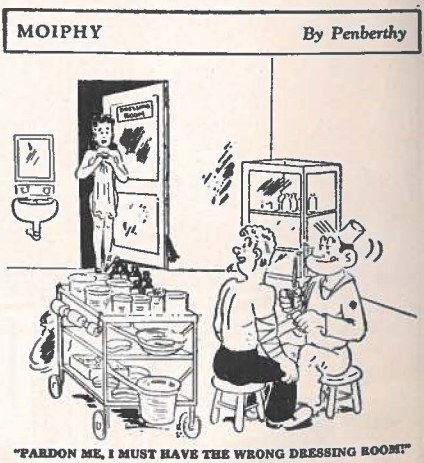


the strips and panels were a regular feature of the hospital papers. Others appeared only once or twice.

Outstanding among the artists, whose technic is similar to the better known "Sad Sack" of Army fame, is Robert Woodcock. His weekly strip "Foxhole" appeared in the Hospital Hi-Lites, USNH, Aiea, T. H. The Foxhole-chaplain episode reproduced here is regarded as one of his better efforts.

The staff artist of the Hospitals Corps QUARTERLY 1944–46, was Steve Tabone, PhM2c. Most of his work was on the





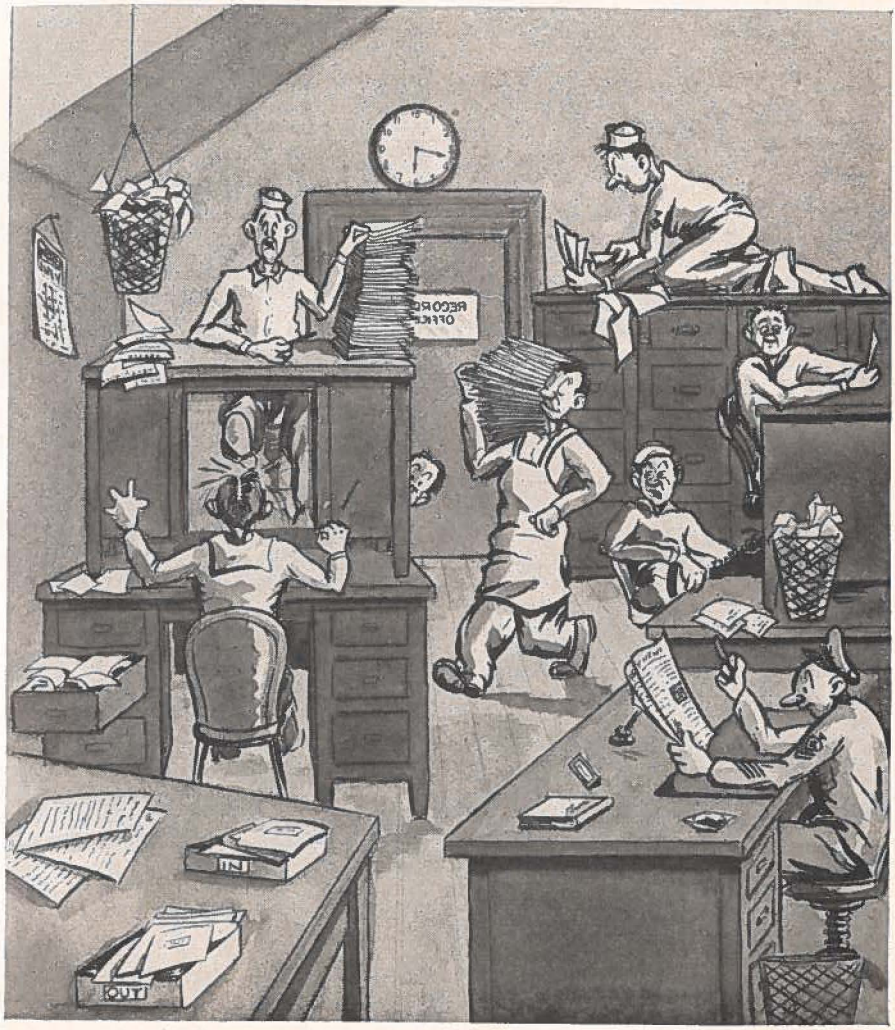
"PARDON ME, I MUST HAVE THE WRONG DRESSING ROOM!"

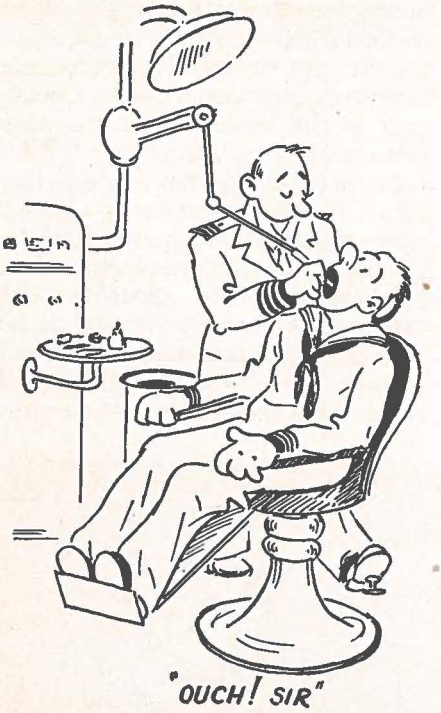
serious side but in a few of the QUARTERLY's covers he produced some excellent work. Notable among these is the one shown here which was used as the cover for the August 1945 issue.

Office space at many activities was obtained at a premium during the war. The greatly exaggerated scene of a "busy" office reproduced, after a fashion, the activity of the QUARTERLY staff. This office, about 12 by 14 feet in size, contained four desks, six filing cabinets, a book case and two small tables. It was cozy but cramped.

A refugee from a "Dick Tracy Gang" was Coleman Anderson, PhM2c. On duty at the Naval Medical School, he occasionally contributed a special drawing for the QUARTERLY. Before and after the war he was on Chester Gould's staff in the production of the daily comic strip "Dick Tracy."

One of the outstanding single-picture artists (but who contributed a weekly feature) was Penberthy whose maudlin character "Moiphy" appeared in the "Oakleaf" at USNH, Oakland, Calif. "Moiphy," a character usually found to be doing the right things wrong, was a diminutive sort who tried hard but just couldn't seem to make the grade.





"Wait a minute, Doc, I think I forgot something!"
Al Ginsberg

The prewar careers and postwar activities of the cartoonists whose work is shown here are unknown. Many of them do not exploit their artistic talent other than as an avocation. Some of them possess a better technic than others, but all have a basic ability to portray life in a comic vein, for the amusement and pleasure of all of us.

When every other method fails, it is always a surety that a sketch—no matter how crude—will make an idea intelligible to even the least understanding.

"Inspection??? Why We Just Had One Last Week!"